

# History Highlights

The New Hope River Valley, now home to the corporate world of Research Triangle Park, has been the site of a broad range of cultures for more than 10,000 years. Archaeologists have explored the remains of 450 prehistoric and historic sites in the area and have uncovered many American Indian artifacts. The land was settled by Scottish Highlanders in the 1740s, and it saw action in both the Revolutionary and Civil wars.

Following a disastrous hurricane, which struck the Cape Fear River Basin in 1945, Congress directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to undertake a comprehensive study of water resource needs in the area. The project, then known as New Hope Lake, was authorized in 1963 and construction began in 1967. In 1973, the name of the project was changed to B. Everett Jordan Dam and Lake in honor of the former senator from North Carolina.

Jordan Lake is not only a popular source of recreation. The lake also provides the water supply for surrounding cities, flood and water quality control, and fish and wildlife conservation.

**Heritage Day:** Every fall on the first Saturday of October, Jordan Lake holds a festival to celebrate the unique cultural and natural resources of the region. It gives participants an opportunity to experience activities related to agricultural, communal, industrial and American Indian history.



# Access

Persons with disabilities will find access to a wide range of recreational facilities, including accessible picnic shelters, trails, swim beaches and campsites. Most parking lots have special spaces available and the restrooms are accessible as well. Accessible camping and swimming is available at Parkers Creek and Poplar Point. Vista Point offers one accessible campsite, as well. Park staff will guide you to facilities best suited to your needs.

**A full service, online and call center-based reservations system is being developed and will be unveiled summer 2009. Check the Web site for more details [www.ncparks.gov](http://www.ncparks.gov).**

# Camping

**Family tent and RV camping:** Pitch your tent or park your recreational vehicle at one of more than 1,000 family campsites at Jordan Lake.

Crosswinds Campground offers campsites for both recreational vehicles and tents; 129 sites have water and electric hookups at the site. All sites include picnic tables, grills and trash containers. Showers, restrooms and a dump station are centrally located.

Parkers Creek offers 250 sites for RV and tent camping. Of the sites, 150 have water and electric hookups. Each site contains a picnic table, grill and lantern holder. Showers, trash containers and restrooms are located nearby.

Poplar Point offers 580 sites for spending an evening under the stars, and 361 sites have electric hookups. The sites include picnic tables, grills and trash containers. Showers and restrooms are located nearby.

Sites for recreational vehicle use only are located at Vista Point, and New Hope Overlook offers primitive, hike-in campsites.

Campsites are available on a first-come basis for a fee. Reservations can be made for a stay of seven days or longer at least two weeks in advance. The maximum stay in any campsite is two weeks in a 30-day period.

**Backpack and canoe camping:** For those who prefer a more primitive campsite, New Hope Overlook offers 24 campsites nestled in the woods. These sites range from 100 yards to a half mile from the parking lot. Or, reach your campsite by water; canoe to the area from a nearby boat ramp. Each site has a picnic table, grill and lantern post. Mulch toilets and drinking water are provided nearby.

**Group camping:** Two areas offer sections for camping clubs and other groups. Parkers Creek has six campsites available for group camping. Drinking water and restrooms are provided. Vista Point also offers five group campsites with drinking water and restrooms nearby. Contact the park office for reservations.

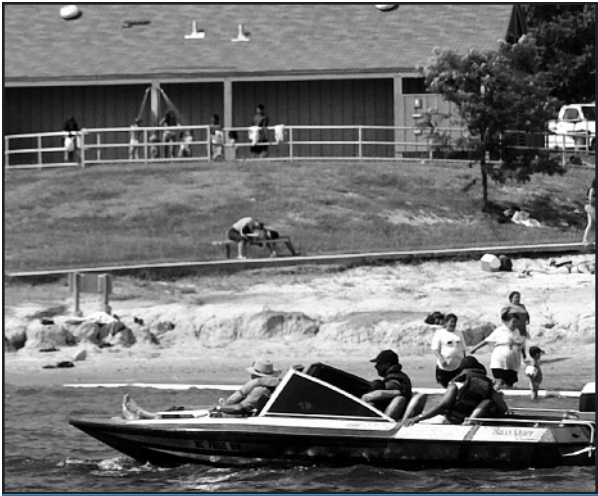
Vista Point offers 50 campsites for group RV camping. All sites contain water and electric hookups. Although these sites are open year round, water to the sites is turned off in the winter.

**Campground hosts:** Volunteer campground hosts work with park staff to provide information and assistance to campers. To volunteer, pick up an application at the Jordan Lake State Recreation Area park office.

# Park Fees

Entrance fees are charged in each recreation area managed by the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation to supplement operational costs and help maintain and improve the areas for visitors. The fee is \$5 per car, \$3 for senior citizens ages 62 and older and \$10 per bus. Annual passes may be purchased for \$40 at the park office and provide access to Falls, Kerr and Jordan Lakes.

Entrance fees cover only recreation activities. Separate fees are charged for picnic shelter reservations and campsites.



# Swimming

Sandy beaches are offered at Ebenezer Church, Parkers Creek, Seaforth and White Oak. Swimming is permitted in designated areas only. The Parkers Creek beach is located on the lake's subimpoundment; boats launched on the main lake do not have access. Crosswinds Campground, Poplar Point and Vista Point offer sandy swim beaches for use by campers only.

Closely supervise children at all times and outfit them with personal flotation devices when they are in or near the water. No lifeguards are on duty.

# Picnicking

Ebenezer Church, Parkers Creek, Seaforth and Vista Point offer picturesque spots for picnicking. Playgrounds are also located at Ebenezer Church, Parkers Creek and Seaforth. Grills and trash containers are available. Drinking water is located nearby. Each area has a picnic shelter. The shelters can be reserved for a fee. Otherwise, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact the park office for a reservation form or for further information.

White Oak, newly opened in 2006, provides an area for large gatherings, ideal for our corporate users. A large picnic shelter has 60 tables. There is also a swimming beach, boat ramp, horse shoe pits and a volleyball court. The entire area is available for reservation and if not reserved, is open to the public. Contact the park office for reservations.

# Eagle Watching

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area is one of the largest summertime homes of the bald eagle, the symbol of the United States for more than 200 years. The population of eagles in the Jordan Lake area has increased dramatically since the flooding of the reservoir in 1983.

Vast, undisturbed areas provide the perfect home for the bald eagle; there's plenty of fish to eat and a mature forest for roosting. Although protection efforts have increased the numbers of this mighty bird, it still remains a rare species. Interpretive programs about the bald eagle are conducted throughout the year at Jordan Lake, usually during warm-weather months. Join one of our programs or bird watch on your own.

# Boating

Each recreation area has boat-launching ramps providing easy entry to the water. Boat ramps open 24 hours are located at Ebenezer Church and Robeson Creek recreation areas.

All other boat ramps are open during park hours and visitors must exit the park before the park's closing time. Boating facilities open during park hours include six boat ramps at New Hope Overlook. Seaforth offers six boat ramps and Vista Point offers four boat ramps. Boat ramps at day-use areas are open to the public. The campgrounds—Poplar Point, Parkers Creek and Crosswinds Campground—offer boat ramps for campers only. All areas have floating docks adjacent to the boat ramps except Parkers Creek, which does not have docks.

Be cautious of underwater hazards such as stumps, logs and rocks. The Uniform Waterway Marker System has been installed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for your safety and convenience. Obey all buoys and markers.

Test your sailing skills on Jordan Lake. The most popular area for sailing is Vista Point, while windsurfers enjoy Ebenezer Church. Wind speed information can be obtained by dialing (919) 387-5969.

# Fishing

Fishing is a popular sport on the lake. Underwater stumps, logs and rocks help create the perfect environment for bass, crappie, catfish and pan fish. A state fishing license is required, and rules of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission must be obeyed.

# Hiking

All campgrounds offer hiking trails of varying lengths available to campers only. Ebenezer Church has two loop trails of one mile each in length. Seaforth's loop trail of 1.4 miles offers views of the lake. At Vista Point, you may select a three-mile loop trail or a 1.3-mile loop trail. The longest trail in the recreation areas is the 5.4-mile loop trail at New Hope Overlook. This trail also features a short cut loop of 2.7 miles. All trails are rated easy in difficulty except for the New Hope trails, which are rated moderate.



# Nature's Classroom

Rangers hold regularly scheduled educational and interpretive programs about Jordan Lake State Recreation Area. Contact the park office to arrange a special exploration of Jordan Lake State Recreation Area for your group or class. A favorite is the C.A.S.T. (Catch a Sure Thing) program, teaching children ages 6–12 how to fish. This is taught every Saturday morning April–June. Contact the park office for required pre-registration.



Educational materials about Jordan Lake State Recreation Area have been developed for grades K-3 and are correlated to North Carolina's competency-based curriculum in science, social studies, mathematics and English/language arts. The Jordan Lake program introduces students to local predators and prey and how they fit into a food chain. Accompanying the program is a teacher's booklet and workshop, free of charge to educators.

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area also has a junior ranger program that encourages children to take a deeper look into the park. To become a junior ranger, children participate in several activities at the park and complete a booklet, recording their observations and experiences. After submitting the booklet to a park ranger, a junior ranger patch and certificate are awarded.

The park visitor center features environmental education exhibits. Learn about bald eagles, water habitats and American Indian artifacts. The exhibit hall is open 8a.m. - 5p.m. daily, except Christmas.

# Rules & Regulations

Make your visit a safe and rewarding experience. Some of our rules are posted throughout the park, and a complete list is available at the park office. Help preserve our natural resources by observing the following:

- ☐ The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- ☐ The removal of any plant, animal, rock or mineral is prohibited.
- ☐ Hunting, trapping and possession of firearms are prohibited in managed areas of the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation.
- ☐ Respect park wildlife. Do not feed or frighten the animals.
- ☐ Bald eagles are protected by law. It is illegal to kill, harass or possess — dead or alive — any eagle or part of an eagle, including feathers and talons. Convictions of such violations may result in fines as high as \$20,000 and imprisonment for one year.
- ☐ Help maintain a clean environment by throwing trash in proper receptacles. State law requires aluminum cans to be placed in recycling containers.
- ☐ Fireworks are not permitted within park boundaries.
- ☐ Cooking fires are permitted only in designated areas.
- ☐ North Carolina motor vehicle and traffic laws apply in the park.
- ☐ Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in the bathhouses or swimming areas.
- ☐ Camping is allowed in designated areas by permit only.
- ☐ Observe the posted campground quiet hours beginning at 10 p.m.
- ☐ All North Carolina boating and fishing regulations are enforced by park staff and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.
- ☐ Swimming is permitted in designated areas only.
- ☐ Trails are for hiking only — no mountain bikes allowed.

# For Your Safety

To prevent accidents, please remember these safety tips.

- ☐ Do not swim alone.
- ☐ Children should remain under close supervision and wear personal flotation devices when playing in or near water.
- ☐ Do not water ski in boat launching or mooring areas.
- ☐ Remember you may be boating in unfamiliar waters with underwater hazards.
- ☐ Exercise particular caution when approaching the shoreline. Water depths vary due to lake fluctuations and terrain.
- ☐ Wear a personal flotation device when in or near the water.

Contact park staff for other safety tips or for an explanation of park rules.



# Welcome!

Imagine relaxing in a cove, listening to the sounds of water rippling. Then, you feel a firm tug on your fishing line. It's going to be a big one! Picture the surface of the lake glistening, water spraying your face, the boat motor ahead roaring. Suddenly, your skis give way—a splash landing! Hear the laughter of children, smell charcoal drifting through the air, feel a breeze blowing through the campground. With almost 14,000 acres of water, all this and more is yours to discover at Jordan Lake.



The N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation operates nine recreation areas on the lake—Crosswinds Campground, Ebenezer Church, New Hope Overlook, Parkers Creek, Poplar Point, Robeson Creek, Seaforth, Vista Point and White Oak. Whether you're looking for fun in the sun or an evening under the stars, Jordan Lake offers it all.

## Information

To learn more about Jordan Lake State Recreation Area, contact:

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area  
280 State Park Road  
Apex, NC 27523  
(919) 362-0586  
jordan.lake@ncmail.net  
www.ncparks.gov

Discover other North Carolina state parks and recreation areas, contact:

N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation  
Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources  
1615 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615  
(919) 733-4181

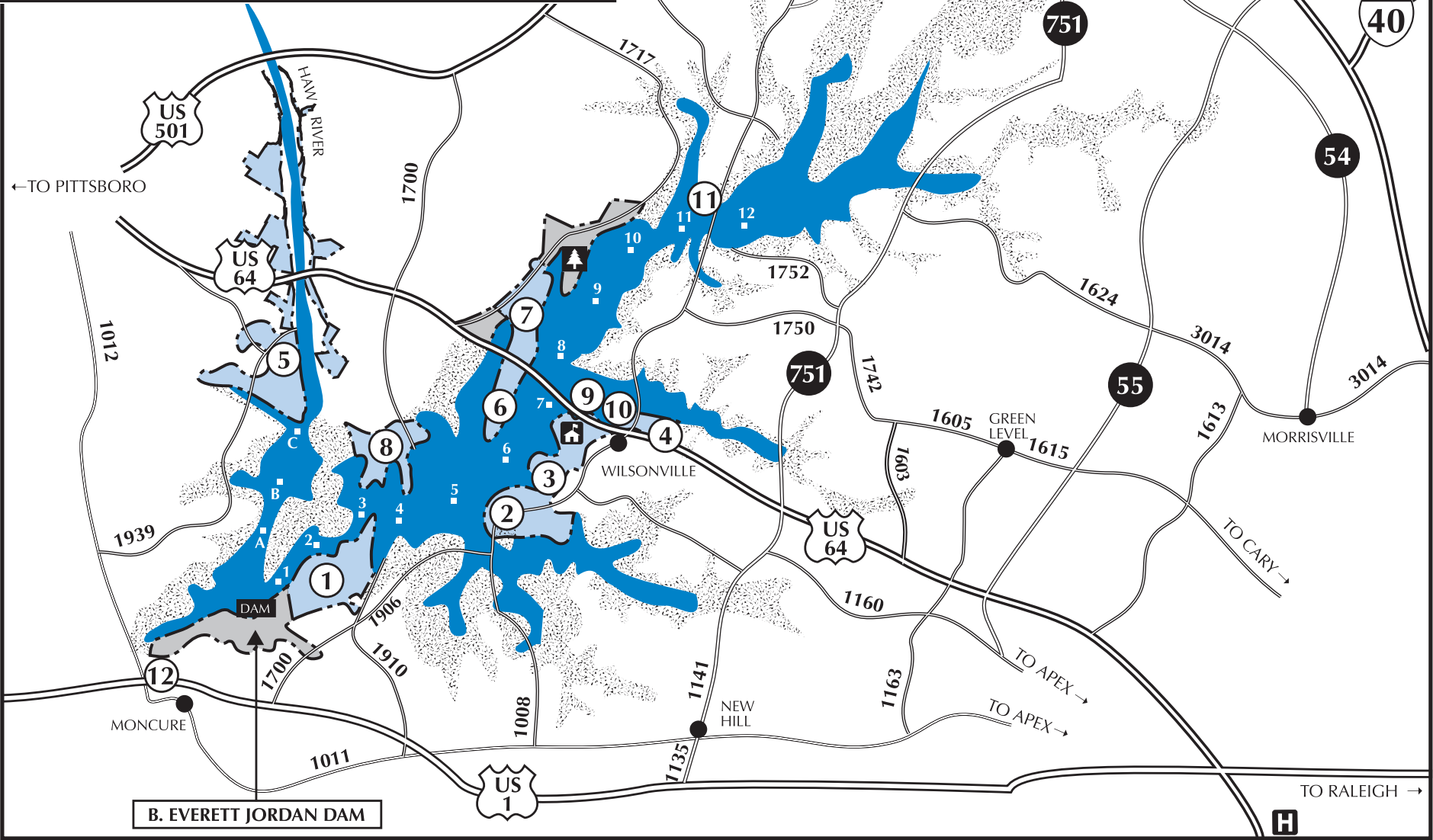
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Facility Legend		R E C R E A T I O N A R E A S											
		① A New Hope Overlook	② A Ebenezer	③ A Poplar Point	④ A Crosswinds Campground	⑤ A Robeson Creek	⑥ A Seaforth	⑦ A Parkers Creek	⑧ A Vista Point	⑨ A White Oak	⑩ B Crosswinds Marina	⑪ C Farrington Point	⑫ D Poe's Ridge
FACILITIES AVAILABLE	Boat Ramp	•	• <sup>2</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>2</sup>	•	• <sup>1</sup>	•	•	•	• <sup>2</sup>	• <sup>2</sup>
	Boat Rentals										•		
	Camping - Group							•	•				
	Camping - Tent	•		•	•			•	•				
	Camping - RV			•	•			•	•				
	Dump Station			•	•			•	•				
	Fishing	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Hot Showers			•	•			•	•				
	Parking	•	•	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Picnic		•				•	•	•	•			
	Public Telephone	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		•	•
	Restrooms	•	•	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>		•	•	•	•			
	Swimming	•	•	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>		•	•	•				
	Trails	•	•	• <sup>1</sup>	• <sup>1</sup>		•	•	• <sup>1</sup>	•			
		1 FOR CAMPERS ONLY    2 24-HOUR ACCESS    A PARKS AND RECREATION    B CONCESSIONAIRE    C NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION    D U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS											



Map Legend	
	Hospital <b>EMERGENCY Dial 911</b>
	Navigational Buoy
	NC Forest Resources
	Park Office
	Paved Roads
	Reservoir
	New Hope Gamelands
	Parkland, Non-Gamelands
	Other Public Lands



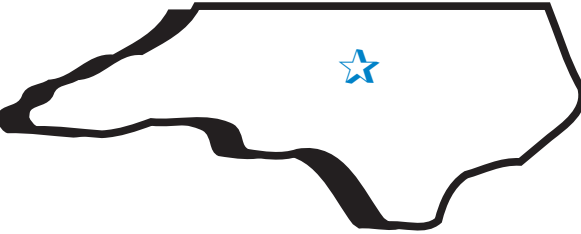
## Jordan Lake State Recreation Area

N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources



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Jordan Lake State Recreation Area is located in Chatham County, 21 miles southwest of Raleigh off U.S. 64 and can be reached via N.C. 751 or U.S. 15-501 from Durham and Chapel Hill.

## Park Hours

November – February	8 a.m.–6 p.m.
March, September, October	8 a.m.–8 p.m.
April – August	8 a.m.–9 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day	